

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: JOHNSON-SEменов PRIVATE MEETING JULY 13, 1976

(SALT TWO-1059)

1. I HAD THREE-HOUR PRIVATE MEETING WITH SEMENOV THIS AFTERNOON (I WAS ACCOMPANIED BY EARLE, AND HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TRUSOV), MUCH OF WHICH WAS DEVOTED DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY TO DATA BASE, WITH NO DISCERNIBLE PROGRESS EXCEPT THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO TALK ON SUBJECT AND HAD SERIES OF QUESTIONS. IN MY REPLIES I EMPHASIZED CONCEPT OF VERY INFORMAL EXCHANGES AND "WORKING OUT DISCREPANCIES" LEADING UP TO TIME OF SIGNATURE. SEMENOV COMPARED MY PROPOSAL TO PUTTING OUT MOLASSES FOR A FLY IN WHICH, IF ONE LEG BECAME STUCK, ALL OF THEM FINALLY BECAME STUCK, DISCUSSION LED INTO BOMBER VARIANTS, DURING COURSE OF WHICH I SAID WASHINGTON EXPERTS HAD CAREFULLY STUDIED INFORMATION THEY HAD GIVEN US AND WERE STILL OF SAME MIND WITH REGARD TO PROBLEM OF DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN VARIANTS, PARTICULARLY TANKERS. I AGAIN URGED DISCUSSION BY EXPERTS, TO WHICH TRUSOV REPLIED THAT OUR EXPERTS WERE "UNDERRATING" THEM-

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SELVES.

2. I TABLED NEW FIRST SENTENCE FOR AGREED STATEMENT PARA 1 OF ARTICLE II, READING AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE PARTIES AGREE THAT THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE (ICBM) LAUNCHERS' CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF ARTICLE II INCLUDES ALL LAUNCHERS DEVELOPED AND DEPLOYED FOR LAUNCHING ICBMS. UNQUOTE

3. I ALSO TABLED TEXT OF STATEMENT (TEXT BELOW) I WOULD PROPOSE TO MAKE IN PLENARY, TO WHICH, IF SOVIETS AGREED, I WOULD AGREE TO REMOVE MAY 26, 1972, DATE IN SECOND SENTENCE OF AGREED STATEMENT FOR PARA 1 OF ARTICLE II.

QUOTE ON JUNE 9, 1976, THE U.S. DELEGATION PROPOSED AN AGREED STATEMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEFINITION OF ICBM LAUNCHERS TO EXPLAIN THE TERM 'LAUNCHERS OF BALLISTIC MISSILES.' THE DATE MAY 26, 1972 IS USED IN THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE AGREED STATEMENT TO ENSURE THAT 177 FORMER ATLAS AND TITAN I LAUNCHERS, ALL OF WHICH WERE DISMANTLED EXTENSIVELY AND ABANDONED AS MILITARY FACILITIES PRIOR TO SIGNATURE OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, IF THE SOVIET DELEGATION IS PREPARED TO AGREE THAT THESE FORMER ATLAS AND TITAN I LAUNCHERS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT, THE U.S. WILL AGREE TO DELETE THE DATE MAY 26, 1972 FROM THE AGREED STATEMENT PROPOSED ON JUNE 9, 1976. UNQUOTE.JOHNSON

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